

Navy Case No. 82,627

Preliminary Amendment in reply to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated May 7, 2004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No. : 09/656,017 CONFIRMATION NO. 2288  
Applicants : Louis F. Aprigliano et al.  
Filed: : Sept. 7, 2000  
TC/A.U. : 1725  
Examiner : Kuang Y. Lin

Docket No. : 82,627  
Customer No. : 000038092

APPEAL NO. : 2004-0769

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In view of the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated May 7, 2004, the Preliminary Amendment previously filed April 4, 2004 is being replaced herewith so as to comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112 as stated in the Final Office action mailed July 30, 2002.

**Amendment to the Claim** is reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** being on page 3 of this paper.